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LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 22 MARCH 2019

Timings of the Day Consultation: September 2019 Friday 22 March to Friday 5 April (3.30 pm)

We would like to consult with parents and carers in relation to the timings of our College day from September 2019. Our proposal is to reduce our lunchtime to 45 minutes and as a result to end the College day at 3.00 pm. Full details are on the letter included with this newsletter.

Learning and Progress

You can lead a horse to water....

Exam Season Countdown:
19 school days and counting

This is what we are doing to support with exam preparation:

- Providing revision planning grids which have been issued to parents and carers and students and can be accessed on our [Exam Revision webpage](#)
- Providing daily revision sessions, with signs in College to remind students and text messages to inform parents and carers
- Providing a daily lunchtime study room for Year 11 students to drop-in and undertake personalised revision
- Offering an Easter Revision Programme
- Providing a range of apps for exam revision, all of which can be accessed on our [Exam Revision webpage](#)

We now need your support as parents and carers to encourage, cajole, insist that your child makes the most of these opportunities before it is too late!

Year 11 'Maths Monday'

For Year 11, in Maths, we need parents and carers to be aware that every Wednesday, students will be issued with a practice paper, uploaded to Show My Homework. Then, to support them with any areas that they identify as a gap, they are invited to attend 'Maths Monday' at lunchtime the following week, in the Maths Learning Centre. Please encourage your child to both complete the papers and attend the Monday session.

Year 9 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE)

We would like to invite Year 9 students and their parents and carers to the SPRE on Thursday 4 April from **5.30 – 8.30 pm**. Letters and appointment cards have been given to students.

We are keen to ensure that we work in partnership to secure the very best progress for your child: with this in mind, we would be grateful if your child could attend the evening with you so that in each subject there is a clear understanding of current progress and priority areas for improvement.

Safeguarding

County Lines: a very real threat to our children

The [Observer newspaper](#) recently ran a series of articles looking at how vulnerable young people are groomed and forced to carry drugs around the country. In this key article, Home Affairs editor, Mark Townsend, writes about how criminals are using violence to force vulnerable teenagers to carry drugs from London estates to the streets of Norwich. Once part of the gang, escape seems virtually impossible.

County Lines is a very real and worrying issue locally. We are ensuring we teach the students how to keep safe and to speak to an adult if they are worried. Please do read the article to raise your awareness and speak to your child about this.

Monitoring Chat Rooms

Following a concern brought to our attention by a parent, which we are very grateful for, we would like to make parents and carers aware of a website called Omegle. It is a chat room where you can talk to strangers and the content can be explicit and not age appropriate.

Every Day Counts!

As we enter the final stages of Term 4, we need to remind parents and carers that every school day is important, including the last day of term. Lessons will be taking place right up to the end of the College day on Friday 5 April and this is a compulsory College day. Our Truancy patrol will be active that day to chase up those students who are not present.

Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations

Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative and Communication (LORIC) is on its way!

We are really excited about this new element to our Personal Development Programme that we will be launching in September. All students will have the opportunity to undertake a series of awards that will help them to develop key skills - ones that will be essential in the workplace in the future.

At the start of Term 3 we launched a trial of the first award, the Apprentice Award, with a group of thirty student ambassadors across Years 7-9. We are proud to announce that two of our Year 9 ambassadors have completed their Apprentice Award, with several more to follow in the next few weeks. Congratulations to Lauren Holder (L1) and Wiktorija Gawlak (W4) on their success. We look forward to many more students gaining this accreditation in the future.

Planning for the Future: Careers Fair 2019

From opticians to vets through to engineering, supermarkets, household names, further and higher education – students from Years 9 and 12 had a chance to gain a glimpse of their future during our Careers Fair at Wicksteed Park. The event hosted 30 exhibitors from across Northamptonshire who volunteered their attendance to share information and answer students' questions about job and apprenticeship opportunities.

With show-stopping musical performances from students at Tresham College, our students had a chance to save goals with Kettering Town Football Academy and talk about saving lives with the NHS.

Josh Lamb, Year 9 enthused "Thank you to the school for organising this for us, it's been inspirational for me and I have loved coming here today. It has made me think about what I want to do when I leave education".

Exhibitors commented on how engaged and interested our students are and how much they enjoyed being a part of the event. We would like to thank all the companies and organisations that gave up their time to support our students in such a valuable way.

Coming Soon... calling all Year 8 Apprentices!

We will soon be launching our Year 8 '**Money Matters**' event, which aims to support students to increase their economic understanding. Parents and carers can enhance this learning by talking to their children about the cost of living! I bet our children will be shocked at just how much a loaf of bread or a pint of milk costs, not to mention the price of houses and cars! We will also be introducing the **£1 Challenge** to Year 8 students.....more information to follow soon!

Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success

Sports Tour 2019: Paris and Normandy, France

We are eagerly anticipating the departure of the 2019 Sports Tour which sets off to France on Monday 8 April. This year's tour will see students take part in a whole host of exciting activities including football fixtures, visiting a football Stadium and the Eiffel Tower. Those taking part will also enjoy a theme park visit, tree climbing, go-karting, tobogganing, sand yachting and kayaking. We look forward to sharing our photos and stories in the April newsletter.

Year 7 Warwick Castle

Our lucky Year 7 students will experience History coming alive on Friday 5 April when they have the opportunity to experience first-hand one of the country's best preserved Medieval castles.

As part of the day, students will be introduced to the structures and strategies involved in the defence of Warwick Castle through the middle ages in their Attack and Defence Workshop and they will have an opportunity to plan an attack and prepare a defence of Warwick Castle as if it were under siege! Added to this, they will witness a range of spectacular themed entertainment, including the Birds of Prey show.

As a reminder, students need to arrive at College for 8.00 am to register in Picasso's. They will need to have a pen, packed lunch and plenty to drink during their busy day of investigating the world of History. Due to the nature of the activities, the day will be a non-uniform day and students will be expected to wear sensible shoes such as trainers. The majority of the visit is spent out doors and so students will need waterproof jackets. The coach will be due to arrive back in College at approximately 4.30 pm. We hope the day will enthuse the Year 7s with a love for the fantastic subject that is History!

Enriching Learning Through the Performing Arts

There are multiple benefits to learning a musical instrument. Research shows it can increase IQ, memory and attention span as well as being very enjoyable and satisfying. Therefore, we are excited about the prospect of being able to offer a **drum and a guitar lesson** that have become available at the College. Lessons are 20 minutes long during the school day. The times of the lessons rotate so that students don't miss the same subject each week. The lessons are £143 per term and each term is 11 weeks long. Lessons for the current term are already underway so parents/carers would only be charged for the lessons left in this term.

Please contact Ms C Eyley Progress Leader: Performing Arts ceyley@latimer.org.uk if you are interested in this opportunity.

Our Drama examination students recently had the opportunity of watching a professional performance of the play '**Thirsty**', written and performed by the incredible '**The Paper Birds Theatre Company**'. The play incorporated physical theatre, mixed media and verbatim work to create a totally engaging and informative piece of theatre.

Watching a professional performance can help to inspire our Drama students and support them with their own practical exam work. Tiegan Franklin, Year 13 said: 'The piece was so visual and interesting that it has really inspired our own exam piece'.

We were delighted to hear that Kayleigh Jarvis, Castle House, has been awarded a Highly Commended in her recent Freestyle and Ballroom Dance exams.

Other News

Uniform Rules: a reminder

We find ourselves once again having to remind parents and carers about our uniform policy in relation to haircuts. Students are not permitted to have 'lines' cut into their hair. This is in our policy and we have stated reminders on several occasions so that there can be no misunderstanding. Those who are continuing to choose to have these haircuts are choosing to breach our policy and as a result, where we now see a student who has breached the rules, we will be taking the appropriate action in line with our Behaviour for Learning Policy.

Come and Join our Team: Check out our current vacancies - are you, or someone you know, interested in working at Latimer? We currently have [vacancies](#) and if you are interested, we would love to hear from you!

Dates for your diary

Please take the time to view our [calendar](#) and ensure that you are aware of all of the key dates for the year.

Friday 29 March	Spring Music Concert, 7.30 pm (Masque Theatre)
Thursday 4 April	Year 9 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 5.30-8.30 pm
Friday 5 April	Year 7 Warwick Castle Visit
	End of Term 4

Tuesday 23 April	College re-opens to students: start of Term 5 <i>This will be Week 2 on the timetable</i>
Wednesday 1 May	Year 8 Money Matters Event
Thursday 2 May	Year 7 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 5.30-8.30 pm
Monday 6 May	Bank Holiday: College closed
Wednesday 8 May	Induction Evening 5.30-8.30 pm for new Year 7 students joining in September 2019 <i>(Invitations will be issued for specific evening and time beforehand)</i>
Thursday 9 May	Induction Evening 5.30-8.30 pm for new Year 7 students joining in September 2019 <i>(Invitations will be issued for specific evening and time beforehand)</i>
Monday 13 May	Exam Season starts (until end of June)
Wednesday 22 May	Parent Forum 6pm Music Room 2 (Masque Theatre)
Friday 24 May	End of Term 5